

Last Week's Leaders

8/4 Saturday 0-30

1st OA: **Dave & Sue Sivertson** (72.5%) **WOW!!!**

2nd OA: **Judy Barron & Alice Kitzmiller** (60%)

8/7 Tuesday Eve

1st OA: **Lois Jones & Caroline Richards** (64.1%)

2nd OA: **Garen Wisner & Steve Simon** (57.7%)



CBA Seminar	CBA	Date/PM	Who	Topic	
		0-30	11 Aug	Mike	Covering an Honor
		Sat	12:30	Purcell	
		99er	14 Aug	Steve	Take Out Doubles
		Tue	6:30	Felson	

CBA NLM Games – Play Often!

Mon NLM 7 PM CBA Wed Homestyle 11:00 AM CBA

Tues 99er 7 PM CBA Wed 199er 6:30 PM NKY BC

Thurs NLM 7 PM CBA 1st Fri 99er 10:00 AM NKY BC

0-30 Sat 1 PM CBA (Lecture at 12:30 PM)

Area Tournaments

Aug 11 - 12 Louisville KY S NLM

Aug 13 - 19 Indianapolis IN S

Aug 24 - 26 Monroe, OH S

Aug 28 - Sep 3 Pittsburgh, PA R

For Details go to <http://www.acbl.org/tournament-calendar/>

There's still time to qualify for the **North American Pairs** – 1 of only 2 grass roots National tournaments open to all players. 0-99ers play in Flight C (500 MP Max). Qualify at the CBC then play in the 2-session District Qualifier at the Cincinnati Sectional on Saturday October 27, 2012. 1st and 2nd place finishers go on to play in the Spring Nationals and receive a stipend from the ACBL (1st = \$700, 2nd = \$300).

4th from Longest and Strongest? – by Steve Moese

This favorite axiom is among the 1st we learn when beginning bridge. David Bird and Taf Anthias recent book **Winning Notrump Leads** suggests other choices can be better. This book looks at NT auctions where one or both partners deny holding a 4-card major. They bring computer simulations to bear and have found some amazing insights. Before we continue let's understand that the conditions for a simulation require realistic constraints on opponents bidding and usually assume DOUBLE DUMMY solutions to the thousands of hands used in the calculation. For example, if we study auctions beginning 1NT (15-17 HCP) then we have to rule out hands where LHO would make an overcall. If the opening bid is in 2nd seat then RHO (Leader's Partner) cannot have a weak 2-bid or a preempt – so partner does not hold a weak

hand with a long suit. The other watchout is that Double Dummy play is not the same as play at the table – Double dummy means play with perfect knowledge of all 52 cards. The results are biased – by the number of times an unusual play is needed to make an extra trick, one the computer sees but bridge players do not.

Experts have known that these auctions 1N-3N, 1N-2♣-2♦-3N, 1♣/♦-3N **suggest a major suit lead**. They have also known that 4th from the longest and strongest works better when you have an outside entry or 2 to run established tricks, and when you are not leading away from a soft combination like KJxx that might give declarer a free finesse. When very weak (no side entry), leading your short major where partner rates to have some length

(hoping for 4+ cards) is often more effective – hit partner's length then partner's entry will increase your side's defensive tricks.

Leading a 4th best ♠ from say Jxxxx.xx xxx xxx with no side entry is a weak choice. You don't really expect to get in so you can't cash the 4th and 5th cards in the

Bd 15	♠ A 8 2
South	♥ A 8 3
Deals	♦ K Q 10 6
N-S Vul	♣ 5 4 2
♠ K J 10 4	N ♠ Q 7 6
♥ 7 5 4	W ♥ K J 6 2
♦ J 9 8	E ♦ 5 4 3 2
♣ K J 8	S ♣ 10 7
NS 4♣2N;	♠ 9 5 3
2♥; 2♦; 1♠	♥ Q 10 9
	♦ A 7
	♣ A Q 9 6 3

suit. Experts lead a ♥ from xx instead!! Here's a hand from July 24th Tuesday Evening that illustrates this idea. My partner was Pat Dutson.

South opened 1♣ and North bid 3N ending the auction. Sitting East I chose to lead the ♠6 looking to find partner's major and to avoid underleading my ♥KJ. Partner Played the ♠K which held, then the ♠J which I overtook to lead the 3rd ♠. Declarer won the ♠A and cashed 4 ♦s ending in hand. A ♣

finesse failed and partner cashed the last ♠ on which my ♥2 said return a ♥ partner. Declarer tried the ♥A and played for a doubleton ♣J, losing 3♠s, 1♥, and 2♣s for down 2. While 4th from longest and strongest often works, thinking often trumps axioms.

Bd 15	#	Scores		MPs	
		N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W
3 NT N	2	630		6.5	0.5
3 NT N	1	600		5	2
3 NT S	3		100	3	4
3 NT N	1		200	1	6
3 NT N	1		400	0	7
2 ♣ S	1	110		3	0
1 ♦ N	1	90		1.5	1.5
2 ♣ S	1	90		1.5	1.5
3 NT S	1		100	0	3

0-30 Corner – Mike Purcell 513 702 4007 mikpur@cinci.rr.com

Congratulations to our winners: **Dave and Sue Sivertson** in 1st (72.50%, Well Done!) and **Judy Barron and Alice Kitzmiller** in 2nd (60%). Full results for Saturday's game can be found at: <http://www.cincybridge.com/calendar2/120804A.HTM>

This Saturday (8/11) Phyllis will be running the 0-30 MP section and I will be giving the seminar on Covering an Honor with an Honor.

A quick reminder there are dates in Aug and Sep that there will be no game. The full schedule is:

Aug 18th – Phyllis Bishop Running the Section and Seminar by Mike Purcell (Defensive Habits)

Aug 25th – NO GAME – Middletown Sectional Tournament - no games at the Cincinnati Bridge Club.

Sep 1st – Mike Purcell Running the Section and Seminar by Phyllis Bishop (2C and Responses)

Sep 8th – NO GAME – **Learn Bridge In A Day Special Event** at the Cincinnati Bridge Club. If you have friends who are curious about bridge, please invite them to this special event.

Below is a hand from last Saturday where distribution once again trumps high card points when it comes to bidding game. If you have any questions on this write-up, let me know.

Board 7

South Deals

Both Vul

♠ K Q 4 3
♥ A 9 7 5
♦ Q J 6 4
♣ A

♠ 10 9 5
♥ 3
♦ K 10 9 3
♣ Q J 10 8 5

N 4N; S 3N;
NS 4♥; 1♠; 1♦;
EW 1♣

♠ J 2
♥ K 10 8 6 4 2
♦ 7 5
♣ K 7 2

W N E S

♠ A 8 7 6
♥ Q J
♦ A 8 2
♣ 9 6 4 3

Bidding – North with an unbalanced 16 HCP hand will open 1♦. South with 7 HCPs and a 6-card ♥ suit will respond 1♥ (shows 6+ HCP, 4+ hearts). North with 4 ♥s know they have an 8-card fit and can reevaluate their hand giving themselves 2 more support points with their ♣ singleton. With an intermediate hand (16-18 support points) North rebids 3♥ to invite game. South should bid to game if they have 8-9 or more support points and pass with only 6-7 support points. South reevaluates their hand adding points for both doubleton (but not the ♠J) and ♥ length to get to at least 9 support points and comfortably bids their 4♥ game.

two ♦ losers. Best plan is to draw trump and try to set up ♠s to pitch ♦s just in case opponents fail to take their tricks in time. Worst case is 4♥ making for 620.

Play of the Hand – Most likely lead is ♣Q (top of an honor sequence). Declarer (South) sees a ♠ loser and

Post Mortem – In general you want 26+ HCP to be in a major suit game but as this hand shows many hands make game with less HCP when you have distribution and support points working for you. Do not be afraid to upgrade your hand for distribution support points once an 8+ card fit is established. More often than not you will be rewarded.

Bd 7		MPs	
N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W
620		1.5	1.5
620		1.5	1.5
620		1.5	1.5
620		1.5	1.5
620		2	0
170		0.5	1.5
170		0.5	1.5